

News Release

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**RPU Water Conservation Program To Be Honored
with CMUA Best Management Practices Award**

Sacramento, Calif. – The California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) has announced that Riverside Public Utilities' water conservation program "FreeSprinklerNozzles.com" has been selected to receive the Best Management Practices award in its 2011 Community Service / Resource Efficiency Awards contest.

California Senator Noreen Evans and Assembly Members Steven Bradford, Roger Hernandez, and William Monning were among the judges for this year's competition, which honors municipally-owned utilities for their innovative projects and programs that help promote best management practices of energy and water conservation, while assisting their customer-owners and communities.

Launched in July 2010, the FreeSprinklerNozzles.com water conservation program was the result of a partnership between Riverside Public Utilities (RPU), Western Municipal Water District, and Riverside-based irrigation manufacturer The Toro Company that provided water customers within the city of Riverside with free Toro Precision Series Spray nozzles.

These patented sprinkler nozzles from Toro use considerably less water than conventional nozzles without adjusting sprinkler controllers or run times. Within just three weeks last year, the program provided more than 42,000 nozzles to Riverside water customers that will provide annual water savings of more than 185 acre feet (or more than 60 million gallons).

"We are honored to receive recognition from the CMUA for this great program that helps reduce outdoor water use throughout our city," said Riverside's Mayor Ronald Loveridge. "It is a great example of how Riverside's water agencies are working together to educate our customers on the importance of water conservation, while providing them with the tools they need to be water wise."

The popularity of last year's FreeSprinklerNozzles.com pilot program led the agencies to increase the budget amount for the 2011 program that will kick off on March 1. While supplies last, Riverside water customers logging into the web site can receive a voucher for free Precision Series Nozzles redeemable at three Riverside irrigation retailers.

The award will be presented to the utility at the CMUA's annual conference being held at the Rancho Las Palmas Resort in Rancho Mirage, CA on April 1.

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